Government reaction to Pakistan talks Offer

50. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's reaction to the recent change in Pakistan taking over the rule by Army ousting Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif;

(b) whether in an interview on Doordarshan at the Army House in Rawalpindi, General of Army of that country has expressed his desire to meet our Prime Minister; and

(c) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) The military coup in Pakistan of October 1999 remains a matter of concern. We continue to closely monitor and assess developments there.

Government have seen the contents of General Pervez Musharraf's interview telecast on February 7, 2000 on Doordarshan. There is no proposal for a meeting with General Pervez Musharraf. Government is of the view that a process of dialogue with Pakistan necessarily requires the cessation of cross border terrorism and the abandonment of hostile propaganda by Pakistan as necessary ingredients to the creation of a suitable environment.

Fake passports

51. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people come to India on fake passports;

(b) if so, what is the estimated number thereof and the name of the country to which majority of such persons belong, who came to India on fake passports, during the last three years; and

(c) in what manner Government prevent the entry of persons on fake passports and what action Government will take against the detained persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Activities of ISI in Nepal and Bangladesh

52. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISI has set up a branch office in Kathmandu from where the hijackers boarded the Indian Airlines flight No. IC 814 and that they were clearly helped by the employees of local Pakistani Embassy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ISI is carrying on its activities in Bangladesh also; and

(c) if so, whether the matter was taken up with those Governments and if so, what is their reaction?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government is aware of and concerned about Pakistan's Intelligence agency, Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), misusing the territories of Nepal and Bangladesh for activities inimical to India's interests.

Credible reports received by Government reveal the complicity of the Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu in the facilitation of activities inimical to India's interests. These include reports of the assistance received by the hijackers of Indian Airlines flight IC 814 from Pakistani diplomatic personnel based in Kathmandu. This has been